

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 06544 01 OF 02 151002Z

16

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 NSCE-00 DPW-01 IO-13 OMB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-20 RSR-01 IGA-02

EA-11 /155 W

----- 091152

R 150756Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 439

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 6544

SENATOR PERCY REQUESTS COPIES BE PASSED TO DR. KISSINGER  
AND TO SCOTT COHEN, SENATOR'S OFFICE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, IR, UR, IN, BG, US, AF

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION BETWEEN SENATOR PERCY AND PAK MINSTATE  
ON REGIONAL ISSUES

SUMMARY: AZIZ AHMED EXPRESSED HOPE FOR IMPORTANT PROGRESS  
IN FORTHCOMING INDO-PAK TALKS, SUBJECT TO UNDERSTANDING  
ATTITUDE OF SHEIKH MUJIBUR RAHMAN. THERE WAS GOOD PROS-  
PECT FOR MOVING TOWARD NORMALIZATION WITH INDIA IF POW  
ISSUE COULD BE RESOLVED. AHMED EXPRESSED HIS USUAL  
CONCERNS REGARDING SOVIET INTENTIONS TO DOMINATE PERSIAN  
GULF/SOUTHERN ASIAN REGION, EXEMPLIFIED MOST RECENTLY  
PERHAPS BY AFGHAN COUP. HE THOUGHT USG HAD NOT FULLY  
APPRECIATED DIMENSION OF SOVIET THREAT IN THIS REGION AND  
APPEALED FOR SYMPATHETIC US VIEW OF PAKISTAN'S DESIRE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 06544 01 OF 02 151002Z

TO ACHIEVE AN ADEQUATE DETERRENT, DEFENSIVE MILITARY

POSTURE. END SUMMARY.

1. SENATOR PERCY, ACCCOMPANIED BY CHARGE, MET WITH AZIZ AHMED, GOP MINISTER STATE FOR DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FOR ONE-HOUR TALK AUGUST 13 BEFORE LUNCHEON GIVEN BY AHMED IN PERCY'S HONOR. NOTING THAT HE HAD BEEN IN KABUL AND WOULD BE GOING ON TO DELHI, PERCY SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO GET BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF PROBLEMS IN THE AREA. HE INVITED AHMED TO REVIEW HIS CONCERNS.

2. POWS. AHMED SAID INDIANS AND PAKS HAD COME PRETTY CLOSE TO AGREEMENT IN THEIR TALKS HERE LAST MONTH, BUT INDIAN SIDE FELT NEED TO CONSULT BDG AND WELL AS GOI. HE LOOKED FORWARD WITH HOPE TO RESUMPTION OF TALKS IN DELHI AUGUST 18. (AHMED WILL AGAIN HEAD PAK DEL.) MAJOR OBSTACLE WAS MUJIB'S PLAN TO HOLD TRIALS. AHMED HAD TOLD INDIANS LAST MONTH THERE SEEMED TO BE NO SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC PRESSURE ON MUJIB TO HOLD TRIALS, AND IF TRIALS HELD IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO METE OUT JUSTICE IN PREJUDICED BANGLADESH CLIMATE. TRIALS BY BDG WOULD RESULT IN TRIALS OF BENGALIERS BY GOP. AHMED RECOUNTED EFFORT TO SKIRT POW ISSUE BY PROPOSAL TO INDIANS THAT ALL DETAINEES EXCEPT FIXED SMALL NUMBER BE REPATRIATED BY GOI AND GOP, WHICH COULD LEAD TO GOP ACQUIESCE IN BANGLADESH ENTRY TO UN. SUMMING UP, AHMED SAID PROPOSED POW TRIALS WERE QTE GUT ISSUE UNQTE WITH REGARD GOP RECOGNITION OF BDG. PERCY NOTED THAT HE HAD MET WITH FAMILIES OF PAK POWS IN WASHINGTON AND WOULD BE MEETING THEN AGAIN HERE THAT DAY. HE RECALLED RECENT CONVERSATION WITH INDIAN AMB IN WASHINGTON, WHOM HE HAD CHIDED OVER CONTINUED DETENTION OF PAK POWS WELL OVER YEAR AFTER WAR'S END. HE COMMENDED GOP FOR PROPOSAL TO SKIRT TRIALS ISSUE FOR TIME BEING AND FOR GETTING GREAT BULK OF DETAINEES RETURNED. PERCY SAID HE WAS INTERESTED IN AHMED'S COMMENT THAT THERE WAS NO SUBSTANTIAL POPULAR SENTIMENT IN BANGLADESH TO HOLD TRIALS. CHARGE INTERJECTED THAT IT WAS IMPRESSION OF OUR EMBASSY IN DACCA THAT THERE WAS INDEED CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC PRESSURE THERE TO HOLD TRIALS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 06544 01 OF 02 151002Z

3. RELATIONS WITH INDIA. AHMED SAID PAKISTAN WANTED TO LIVE IN PEACE WITH INDIA. GOP HAD GOTTEN IMPRESSION INDIA ALSO WANTS PEACE. PRIMIN GANDHI HAD TOLD PAKS AT SIMLA LAST YEAR THE GOI HAD COME TO CONCLUSION THAT QTE STRONG AND STABLE UNQTE PAKISTAN WAS IN INDIA'S INTEREST. GOP HOPED THIS CONSTITUTED BASIC CHANGE IN INDIAN POLICY. GOP WOULD LIKE TO MOVE AHEAD WITH NORMALIZATION AS ANTICIPATED AT SIMLA BUT THIS WAS BEING HELD UP BY POW

ISSUE. NOTING WITH SOME OBVIOUS SATISFACTION THAT INDIA  
SEEMED TO HAVE BECOME A BIT UNEASY OVER RELATION-  
SHIP WITH USSR, AHMED EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER SOVIET  
INVOLVEMENT AND INTENTIONS IN REGION. EVER SINCE 1971,  
SOVIET MILITARY SUPPLIES HAD CONTINUED TO FLOW IN SUB-  
STANTIAL VOLUME TO INDIA. MEANWHILE CURRENT INDIAN  
DEFENSE BUDGET WAS HIGHEST EVER, AND BULK OF INDIAN ARMY  
REMAINS JUST ACROSS PAK BORDER WHERE THEY APPARENTLY  
WILL BE BUILDING PERMANENT ACCOMMODATIONS.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 06544 02 OF 02 151017Z

12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 NSCE-00 DPW-01 IO-13 OMB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-20 EA-11 IGA-02

RSR-01 /155 W

----- 091314

R 150756Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 440

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 2 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 6544

SENATOR PERCY REQUESTS COPIES BE PASSED TO DR. KISSINGER  
AND TO SCOTT COHEN, SENATOR'S OFFICE

4. AFGHANISTAN. PERCY ASKED FOR GOP ASSESSMENT OF  
DAUD'S STATEMENTS ON PAKISTAN. AHMED SAID HE BELIEVED  
DAUD WILL HEAT UP PUKHTOONISTAN ISSUE. IF LEFT ALONE,  
PAKISTAN COULD HANDLE ISSUE WITH AFGHANISTAN. PROBLEM WAS  
RATHER ONE OF SOVIET SUPPORT FOR AFGHANS. RESPONDING  
PERCY QUERY, AHMED SAID GOP HAD NO HARD EVIDENCE OF SOVIET

INVOLVEMENT IN RECENT COUP. GOP HAD NOTED USG DOUBTS THIS QUESTION, BUT IT FEELS THERE WAS SOVIET INVOLVEMENT. PERCY NOTED THAT HE HAD LOOKED FOR EVIDENCE THIS SUBJECT WHEN IN AFGHANISTAN LAST WEEK, BUT HE HAD FOUND NONE. DAUD AND OTHERS HAD ASSURED HIM SOVIETS WERE NOT INVOLVED.

5. SOVIET INTENTIONS. AHMED SPOKE AT SOME LENGTH, ALONG HIS USUAL LINES, OF CONCERNS OVER SOVIET STRATEGIC  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 06544 02 OF 02 151017Z

INTENTIONS. SOVIETS SEEMED TO FEEL THAT TWO COUNTRIES, IRAN AND PAKISTAN, NEEDED TO BE SUBDUED SO AS TO PROMOTE SOV INTERESTS IN PERSIAN GULF/SOUTHERN ASIAN REGIONS. THEY HAD THUS BEEN SUPPLYING WEAPONS TO INDIANS, AFGHANS, AND IRAQIS. THEY WERE ALSO FOSTERING SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY IN BALUCHISTAN (ALTHOUGH GOP HAD THUS FAR NOT FOUND SOPHISTICATED SOVIET ARMS THERE) AND WERE PROMOTING QTE PUKHTOONISTAN UNQTE PROPAGANDA. IT WAS HIS BELIEF, AHMED SAID, THAT SOVIETS WANT TO DIMINSH CHINESE INFLUENCE IN THIS REGION AND ALSO TO KEEP USG INFLUENCE LOW. HE REFERRED TO LONG-STANDING SOVIET INTEREST IN GETTING LAND ACCESS TO WARM WATERS OF ARABIAN SEA. AHMED THOUGHT IT SIGNIFICANT THAT SOVIETS HAD RAISED WITH PAKS, ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, PROPOSAL FOR ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY PACT. LAST TIME THIS HAD BEEN BROUGHT UP WAS ONLY LAST WEEK, WHEN SOVIET CHARGE HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT AHMED WAS PLANNING TO VISIT MOSCOW AND PEKING FOLLOWING FORTHCOMING INDO-PAK TALKS IN DELHI.

6. AHMED SAID HE THOUGHT USG HAD TO DECIDE WHERE ITS INTERESTS LAY IN THIS REGION. GOP WILL HAVE TO LIVE WITH USG DECISION. IN TIME, PAKISTAN MIGHT HAVE TO COME TO TERMS WITH USSR. CHINESE HELP TO PAKISTAN WAS VALUABLE BUT IT HAD ITS LIMIT. AHMED SAID QTE I HOPE YOU MAY COME TO CONCLUSION IT IS IN YOUR INTERESTS TO HELP PRESERVE COUNTRIES OF THIS REGION. UNQTE PERCY RESPONDED THAT USG IS REALISTIC CONCERNING SOVIETS. WE BELIEVE WE CAN DEAL WITH THEM ON DETENTE WHEN THEY CONSIDERED IT IN THEIR INTERESTS, BUT THERE ARE DEFINITE PRESSURES ON SOVIETS FOR DETENTE AND LIBERALIZATION. US HAD TO PROMOTE THOSE PRESSURES.

7. AHMED SAID PAKISTAN WANTED TO MAINTAIN AN ADEQUATE DETERRENT, DEFENSIVE MILITARY POSTURE. IT DOES NOT WANT US MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN REGION BUT NEEDS TO BE ABLE TO PROCURE DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY. WHEN AHMED WAS IN WASHINGTON SOME MONTHS AGO, MEMBERS OF HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HAD TOLD HIM THEY WERE SYMPATHETIC TO PAK MILITARY NEEDS, BUT A SENATOR HAD SAID US DID NOT

WANT TO PROMOTE ARMS RACE. NOR DID PAKISTAN WANT ARMS  
RACE, BUT IT DID HAVE CERTAIN MINIMUM NEEDS. PAKISTAN  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 06544 02 OF 02 151017Z

COULD NOT BE SERIOUS THREAT TO INDIA. WHY WAS INDIA  
CONTINUING TO ARM?

8. RESPONDING BRIEFLY TO ABOVE, PERCY RECALLED SHARP  
INDIAN REACTIONS TO PAST US MILITARY SUPPLY OF PAKISTAN.  
HE MIGHT WISH TO RAISE WITH INDIANS SOME OF POINTS  
WHICH AHMED HAD JUST MADE. HE APPRECIATED AHMED'S FRANKNESS  
AND THIS MIGHT HELP LAY BASIS FOR BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF PAK  
PROBLEMS WHEN BHUTTO MEETS WITH SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE IN SEPTEMBER. PERCY THEN WENT ON TO STATE HIS  
PERSONAL BELIEF THAT ITS INTERNAL SOLIDITY AND ECONOMIC  
PROGRESS WOULD CONSTITUTE PAKISTAN'S BASIC STRENGTH  
IN THE DECADE AHEAD. HE EXPRESSED ADMIRATION FOR PRES  
BHUTTO'S EFFORTS AND SUCCESS IN MOVING COUNTRY FORWARD.

9. THIS MESSAGE HAD NOT BEEN SEEN BY SEN PERCY, WHO NOW TRAVELING  
UP-COUNTRY AND UNAVAILABLE.  
SOBER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973ISLAMA06544  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS SOBER  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** ISLAMABAD  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730837/aaaabava.tel  
**Line Count:** 249  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 5  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <18-Jan-2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CONVERSATION BETWEEN SENATOR PERCY AND PAK MINSTATE ON REGIONAL ISSUES  
**TAGS:** PBOR, PFOR, IR, UR, IN, BG, US, AF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005